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THE TECH.

Published on alternate Thursdays, during the school year, by the students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

BOARD OF EDITORS.

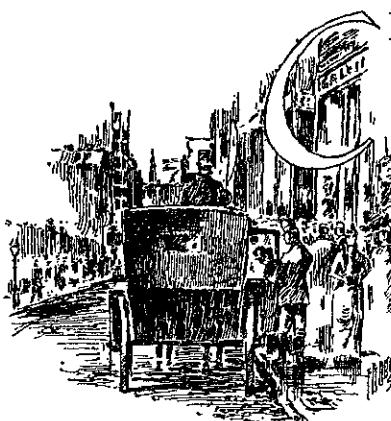
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CHRISTMAS at the Institute is so quickly over,—twenty-four hours being all the time assigned to it by the Catalogue,—that, as a recompense for the shortness of his enjoyment, every Tech. man who is obliged to remain in Boston should make the most of every hour of the holiday. Let it be a Merry Christmas for yourself and your neighbor, which, for the day, at least, is the rest of the world. A Christmas sermon, a Christmas dinner, a Christmas play,—on any or all of them, as suits the reader's liking, some hours may be well spent. Devote the remaining time to your friends in general, or to one of them in particular; and on the morrow, which will come too quickly, you will awake to the realities of life with a sense of having done your duty toward yourself and toward the occasion.

Of the men who will grind on Christmas Day, THE TECH lacks words to express an opinion; to all others it wishes the best enjoyment that the season affords.

THE TECH has a few words more to say in regard to the offer for contributed stories published in the last number, which may be timely in preventing misapprehensions that always arise in a matter of this kind.

In the first place, the stories must be original; that is, they must not be abstracts or adaptations of tales that have already appeared in the magazines. Any article that is known to fall under these heads will, of course, not be considered for an award. Translations designated as such are, however, allowable.

The stories should also be written with regard to the tastes of those who are to read them. Moral didactics and sentimentalities are equally out of place in a college paper. Be interesting before all; after this may come all the virtues of story writing.

The contributions will be considered in the order in which they are received,—first come, first served. Do not delay your work until the opportunity of profiting by it has gone.

Hand in your contributions in accordance with these suggestions, and those formerly offered, and you will be acting to your own advantage, and to that of THE TECH.

THE petition which is being circulated for the suspension of the exercises of the school on the 23d and 24th of the month, should receive the approval and the signature of every student, and, we may venture to add, be granted by the Faculty. Other colleges have at this season a vacation of from one to

three weeks, and a recess of three days is by no means too long for us when we consider the work that is performed here. Grind- ing for the semi-annuals will begin imme- diately after Christmas, and it can certainly be undertaken more vigorously if we are allowed a day or two to clear our brains before enter- ing on the periodic struggle with the exam- ination fiend. For these and other good and sufficient reasons the said petition should be granted. As a timely hint, we would suggest that the Faculty could make no more accept- able Christmas gift to the nine hundred students under their direction, than to notify them that upon leaving work at the end of this week they need not resume it until the following Thursday morning.

now or immediately after the Semies. Our facilities in the athletic line are by no means palatial, yet every man here has abundant op- portunities to take two or three short runs a week. On Boylston Street, between the drill- shed and the bridge, is a fairly level stretch of road, and plenty of room to lay off a quarter- mile track. Out-of-door exercise is the best possible thing to keep up general health, and the intention of entering in the spring games would furnish the stimulus necessary to make that exercise interesting. Aside from all con- siderations of cups and the honor of one's class, the mere feeling of strength and power which comes from exercise is an ample re- ward for all the hard work. So, even if you cannot break a record, train faithfully for a month or two, give yourself a chance to do your best, and you will never regret it.

EVER since the beginning of the year, the gymnasium on Exeter Street has pre- sented an animated appearance during the latter part of the afternoon. The first part of the season the football men furnished the animation, while from the Thanksgiving vacation until last Saturday, the tug-of-war teams were practicing steadily. But now this is all changed. The winter meeting of the Ath- letic Club is over, and the old drill-shed is de- serted, except for an occasional tennis player and the tri-weekly visits of the Freshmen. This will probably continue until the next foot- ball season ; there may be some slight activity just before the open spring games, but that will be only for a week or two, and then all will be quiet again.

Now, everyone knows that our records in out- door events may easily be improved ; then why not improve them this year instead of waiting ? There are plenty of men at the Institute who could, if they would but try, readily break our present records in either the mile run or the broad jumps—merely to mention three of the easiest chances. All that would be necessary is enough energy to go into light training, either

A NEW board stands among the old resi- dents in the corridor, and gives notices of students' meetings. Every Tech. man knows what a student and what a meeting is, but just what the combination signifies is vague to many. Last February there was a feeling among the Institute members of the Intercollegiate Young Men's Christian Asso- ciation, that their college, which was not behind other institutions in its curriculum and athletics, should also take some interest in religious matters, and, with this in view, they established a series of social meetings, held every Monday in Rogers Building. There is no organization ; simply a number of men who want to advance their cause, and who feel the meetings to be a help to them in starting the week right. A different leader is chosen for each time, and the aim is to make the meet- ings as informal as possible. Although started under disadvantages, the series have been successfully carried out, and should receive the hearty co-operation of all those who can take an interest in the matter.

THE class cup is a strikingly handsome ornament to Rogers corridor, but in the very prominence of its position there is an element of insecurity. The building is for a large part of the day open to the public, and little attention can be paid to those going in and out. In the evening, two or three times a week, lectures are given in Huntington Hall, and while they are being delivered there is often no one in the lower corridor. It will be seen that there is no lack of opportunities for any one so disposed to make away with the cup; and its intrinsic value is sufficient to reward the risk attendant on its removal. The seriousness of its loss to Tech. men, however, would not be measured by its money value.

The above furnishes an argument in addition to those already advanced by **THE TECH**, in favor of the securing of some appropriate place for the safe keeping and display of Institute trophies. In view of the increased accommodations which the Institute will soon have at its disposal, we hope that the officers of the Athletic Association will be enabled to secure a room where the prizes won by our athletes in behalf of the Institute may be suitably bestowed.

THE slowness with which the entries came in for the recent Indoor Athletic Meeting was disappointing and annoying to the officers of the Athletic Club, who have enough to do in arranging the details of such an affair without being required to solicit entries. There is little cause for such delay, as it is generally known that these meetings occur about the same time every year, and due notice is always given of the exact date. Aside from this, the support given to the efforts of the Athletic Club is very encouraging as an indication of the interest of Tech. men in general in the work of our athletes, who have not failed to sustain the reputation of the Institute.

This Closed Meeting is also, in a sense, preparatory to the Open Indoor Meeting, and gives the participants a chance to compare their standing with that of the men in other colleges. There is little doubt, from last Saturday's showing, that Tech. will be able, as heretofore, to hold her own against any strangers that may enter.

THE Faculty has voted to establish a separate course in Geology, to be known as Course XII. Course VII. will then be known as the Course in Biology, which is what it really has been ever since Professor Sedgwick came to the Institute. It will interest some of the Freshmen to learn that Professor Sedgwick has many more applications for biologists and teachers of Natural Science than he has graduates, and no one need hesitate about taking the course in biology for fear that he will not be wanted as soon as he is ready for work.

VERY little can be said this week concerning the approach of the Institute lunch room, except that it is surely coming. As one and another of Boston's caterers are interviewed by the Committee of the Co-operative Society, the scheme seems to grow more and more feasible, and success more certain.

It is not known now what room or rooms in the buildings will be given up for the purpose, but it is possible that one of the large basement rooms of the Rogers Building may be fitted up for it.

AT a meeting of the Board of Editors of **THE TECH** held Wednesday, December 11th, Messrs. Theodore Spencer, '91, and Frederick Hill Meserve, '92, were elected editors of **THE TECH**. They will begin their duties with the present number.

It is desired to make further additions to the Board of Editors from among those handing in contributions, before the close of this term.

Salvette and Bernadou.

[From the French of A. Daudet.]

I.

IT was Christmas eve in the capital of Bavaria. On the streets, white with snow, the hurrying throng jostled one another in good-natured confusion before the dazzling show-windows of the shops and at every turn and crossing. Armfuls of green holly and whole fir trees loaded with gifts and ornaments were everywhere, like shadows of the distant forests, reminders of nature in the artificial life of winter.

As the night descended, the rays of the setting sun, still lingering behind the Residency, shone ruddy through the dusk. In the city every light that was kindled in the houses seemed to hang upon a Christmas tree, so universal was the preparation for the holiday. Indeed, it was not an ordinary Christmas. In the year of grace eighteen hundred and seventy, the birth of Christ was a convenient pretext to drink to the Fatherland, and to celebrate the triumph of the Bavarian arms.

Even the Jews of the lower town shared the enjoyment. See old Augustus Cahn briskly turning the corner by the Blue Grape! When have his ferret eyes shone as they shine to-night? When have his crafty steps been taken so lightly? In his hand is a neat little basket filled to the edge, and covered with a white napkin which discloses glimpses of a bottle of wine and leaves of holly. But the old usurer has no intention of getting his friends together to celebrate Christmas and drink to a united Germany. Every one knows that old Cahn is a man without a country. His fatherland is his strong box. Aside from his business he has no family or friends. His sons, who were his associates, have been with the army for three months carrying on an illicit traffic with the Landwehr, disposing of their stock of liquors, and receiving in return the valuables of their customers. After a battle they reap a harvest from the pockets of the dead or from the booty scattered by the side of the roads.

Being too old to follow his sons, father Cahn has remained at home, and done a flourishing business with the French prisoners of war. He roams stealthily about the barracks, always adding to his collection of watches, medals, and decorations. He glides through the wards of the hospitals, and approaches the beds of the wounded, demanding in his horrible jargon,—

“Avez-fus guelgue jôsse à sentre?”

At this moment he is hurrying so quickly with his basket on his arm because the military hospital closes at five o'clock, and he has two Frenchmen waiting for him in that great building, with the narrow, barred windows, where Christmas eve is only lighted by the pale lamps that burn by the bedsides of the dying.

II.

These two Frenchmen are named Salvette and Bernadou. They are two infantrymen of the same village in Provence, enlisted in the same regiment, and wounded in the same battle. Salvette, however, had the stronger hold on life, and is already able to rise and take a few steps from his bed to the window. Bernadou will not recover. Within the dingy curtains of his hospital bed, he appears more and more weak and emaciated from day to day; and when he speaks of his return home, it is with that mournful smile of the sick in which there is more of resignation than of hope. To-day, however, as he thinks of Christmas-tide, which in Provence is a season of special rejoicing, he is a little more lively. He recalls the customs of the day: the home-going from the midnight mass; the adorning of the church with lights; the streets of the village pitch dark and crowded with people; then the long watching around the table, the traditional candles, and the merry burning of the yule-log well sprinkled with wine.

“Ah, Salvette, it will be a poor Christmas this year! If we only had money enough to pay for a little white bread and a bottle of claret, I should like before giving up the fight to burn another yule-log with you.”

In speaking of the white bread and wine the eyes of the sick man glistened ; but what could be done ? The soldiers had neither money nor watches. Salvette, it is true, keeps a note for forty francs in the lining of his coat, but it was reserved for the day when they should become free and the first halt they should make at a French tavern.

Bernadou, however, is so ill ! Who knows whether he will ever start on the way home ? And since here is a Christmas that they can still enjoy together, is it not best to profit by it ?

Then, without saying anything to his comrade, Salvette removed the money from its hiding-place ; and when the old Jew came on his usual morning rounds in the halls, after a long debate and discussions in a low tone, he slipped into his hand the piece of paper,—ragged and yellow, smelling of powder, and stained with blood. From that moment Salvette assumed an air of mystery. He rubbed his hands together and laughed to himself when he looked at Bernadou. Now, as evening approached, he was on the watch, his face pressed against the glass, until he saw old Augustus Cahn arrive, all out of breath, with the little basket on his arm.

III.

The solemn midnight, which sounded from all the bells of the city, fell mournfully on the hearing of the wounded. The hospital was silent, lighted only by the night lamps suspended from the ceiling. Tall shadows floated aimlessly across the bare walls, and hovered over the beds with a perpetual to and fro movement that seemed like the oppressed breathing of the sufferers stretched upon them. At times a dreamer spoke aloud or sighed in his sleep, while from the street below arose a vague murmur of steps and voices mingled in the cold and resonant air. One could feel the beginning of the celebration of the holy festival disturbing the hour of rest, and arousing in the lifeless city the dim rays of

lanterns and the glimmering of the church windows.

“Are you asleep, Bernadou ?”

Very softly on the little table near the bed of his friend Salvette placed a bottle of Lunel wine and a Christmas loaf of white bread, in which the branch of holly was planted upright. The sick man opened his eyes. By the uncertain light of the lamps, and the white reflection from the roofs where the moon shone upon the snow, this improvised Christmas seemed like a dream.

“Come, wake up, comrade ; don’t let them say that we let the day go by without greeting it with a drop of claret.”

Salvette raised him with the care of a mother, filled the goblets and cut the bread, and pledged him and talked to him of Provence.

Little by little Bernadou became attentive and animated. The wine also brought its memories ; with the childishness of an invalid he wished Salvette to sing to him. His friend asked nothing better. “Which do you want, *Les Trois Rois* or *St. Joseph m’a dit ?*” “I had rather have the ‘*Bergers*,’ Salvette. It is the one they sing at home.”

In an undertone, with his head within the curtains, Salvette commenced to hum the air. All at once in the last couplet, where after the shepherds have brought their offering to Jesus in the stable, dismissing them with a gracious air, Joseph says,

“*Bergers,*
Prenez votre congé.”

Bernadou fell back heavily on his pillow. His friend thinking that he was asleep called him and grasped his shoulder. But the wounded man remained motionless, and the branch of holly across the white sheet seemed already the green palm to be placed upon the shroud of the dead.

Salvette understood ; then weeping a little, and confused by the suddenness of his great grief, he took up again in the silence the gay refrain of Provence,—

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The President's Report.

WE give here an abstract from the President's report, which will not prove uninteresting.

There are in the Institute at present 909 students,—an increase of 82 over last year, divided by classes as follows:—

Graduate students for advanced degree	3
Regular students, fourth year	110
Regular students, third year	130
Regular students, second year	148
Regular students, first year	261
Special students	257

Of these 909, 556 had their names in last year's catalogue. Of the remainder, 255 are regular first year students; 98 are new students not of the regular first year class. There are 652 regular students, 72 per cent of the whole number.

The statistics of residence show that 35 States of the Union, with the District of Columbia, are represented in the lists of students. Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Peru, Brazil, Guatemala, Turkey, the West Indies, the Hawaiian Islands, Bulgaria, Japan, Mexico, Panama, and France are also represented.

Of the total number, 533, or 58.6 per cent, are from Massachusetts; 114 are from the other New England States; 262 from outside New England, of whom 17 are from foreign countries.

All the counties of Massachusetts, except Dukes and Nantucket, are represented. Suffolk sends 197; Middlesex, 160; Essex, 50; Norfolk, 43. Boston leads the towns with 180 students; 25 others send four or more students.

The average age of the entering class, 255 being taken for comparison, 6 of unusual age being excepted, is 18 years, 7 months, and 12 days, or 222.4 months, to 223.5 months for last year's class.

Of the 75 members of the last graduating class (1889), 2 were under 20, 5 between 20 and 20½, 24 between 20½ and 21½, 11 between 21½ and 22, 19 between 22 and 23, the remaining 14 being over 23.

There are 33 "Co-eds." Of the Specials, 9 are in the Chemical and Physical Courses, 9 in Biology and allied subjects, 4 in Mathematics, 1 in Architecture.

There are 50 graduates of institutions conferring degrees on the lists for the present year. Of the fourth year, 2 are of Course I., 3 of Course II., 1 of Course IV., 2 of Course VI. Of the third year, 3 are of Course I., 3 of Course VI., 1 of Course X. Of the second year, 2 take Course I., 1 Course II., and 5 Course VI.; 18 are Specials.

The division of the second year students into courses is as follows:—

Civil	29
Mechanical	29
Mining	7
Architectural	16
Chemistry	5
Electrical	43
Biological	4
Physics	1
General	5
Chemical Engineering	3
Sanitary Engineering	6
Total,	148

The number of instructors of all grades, excluding those persons announced as lecturers for the year only, but including the instructors at the shops, is 92, against 79 of last year.

Of Course.

I was walking through the city—the place, you know it well—

When a sudden shower came, and the rain in torrents fell,
A very pretty damsel I saw standing in the street;
No mackintosh she wore, and no rubbers on her feet.

Without umbrella was she; I had one, silk and new:
I asked her please to take it until the storm was through.
She seemed a little doubtful; she did not wish to go
And leave me unprotected while the rain was falling so.

I spoke in tones politest, and said: "Permit me, then,
To go along and hold it, the happiest of men.
I'll ask you to regard me as an essential part
Of my umbrella handle, and let me with you start."

She blushed, and answered coyly,—quick wits she did not lack,—

"Suppose I should neglect to send your umbrella back,
But keep it as mine always, which I'd be apt to do;
If you were its appendage, would I have to take you, too?"



◎ TRAUMEREI ◎

The dying embers faintly glow,
And ghostly shadows flit
Around my chamber, where alone
And desolate I sit:
The wintry winds around the eaves
With mournful voices wail,
And from the beach the crash of surf
Is borne upon the gale.

But spite of drivin' sleet and hail,
I gaze on visions bright,
For memory's book has ope'd to me
Its fairest page to-night:
And sweet, long-banished thoughts of love
This stormy night are mine,
As mid the flickerin' firelight
I dream of Auld Lang Syne.

Winter Indoor Meeting.

THE Athletic Club may well be satisfied with the result of their winter meeting, which was held in the gymnasium, on Saturday, December 14th. The chairs and windows were occupied by about four hundred spectators. The entries were few, but well and closely contested. The programme was a long one, and it was after six o'clock before the last of the events was concluded.

At a quarter past two de Bullet, '90, Bradlee, '91, and Slade, '92, appeared for the fence vault. Slade gave a handicap of 5 in. to Bradlee, and 4 in. to de Bullet. Bradlee vaulted 6 ft. 4½ in., de Bullet 6 ft. 7½ in., and Slade 6 ft. 9½ in.; but the handicap gave de Bullet first, and Bradlee second.

The next event was the running high kick, in which Wason, '90, and Heywood, '93 were entered. Wason dropped out at 9 ft., which was 2 inches below his record. Heywood tapped the pan at 9 ft. 1 in., winning first, and Wason received a cup as second.

The running high jump followed next in order, and Wason, '90, Conant, '91, and Heywood, '93, appeared before the bar. Heywood cleared 5 ft. 4¾ in. Wason dropped out after jumping 5 ft. 5¼ in. The bar was then placed at 5 ft. 6 in., the Institute record, and gracefully cleared by Conant. The next put the bar at 5 ft. 7½ in., but Conant failed to clear it.

Putting shot followed. de Bullet, '90, and Slade, '92, struggled with 16 lbs. of shot. de Bullet won first prize by heaving 35 ft. 3 in.; Slade took second at 33 ft. 2 in.

Next came the standing high jump. Wason, '90, and Conant, '91, were entered. Wason cleared 4 ft. 8 in., and Conant 4 ft. 9 in., but would not try for the record, which was 4 ft. 10 in.

The cleats were then set, and '92 and '93 faced each other for a tug-of-war. On the drop '92 had 6 inches. No pulling was done, except that Harvey straightened his knees,

and 2 inches more were called in his favor. At the end of 5 min. '92 had 9 inches.

The teams were made up as follows: '92, F. H. Harvey, anchor, H. Doe, 3, W. R. Kales, 2, W. W. Locke, 1; '93, Batchelder, anchor, W. E. Brooks, 3, U. P. Cutler, 2, C. Hanscon, 1.

Immediately after this pull '90 and '91 took the cleats. After some maneuvering on both sides '90 had 1½ inches on the drop; de Bullet came up on his toes and had 1½ inches more; at the end of five minutes '90 had 14½ inches.

The teams were made up as follows: '90, J. C. de Bullet, anchor, E. A. Le Sueur, 3, F. Knight, 2, W. H. Fenn, 1; '91, M. W. Greer, anchor, R. W. Conant, 3, Charles Garrison, 2, H. G. Bradlee, 1.

In the fencing three of the five entries appeared: Beattie, '93, Weis, '92, and Dana, '93. The first bout was between Weis and Beattie. Beattie won with a score of 4 points to Weis' 3.

In the feather-weight sparring, Batchelder, '90, and Brown, '93, were entered. In the first of the first round Brown forced the fighting, and got in several heavy counters on Batchelder's neck, Batchelder acting on the defensive; in the latter part of the round Batchelder got in a successful left hander on Brown's nose, and scored first blood, which continued to flow freely for the remainder of the bout. In the second round Batchelder forced the fighting, and Brown dodged to avoid punishment. In the third round Brown was apparently weakened from loss of blood, and Batchelder forced him hard, giving Brown severe punishment on his already much-abused respiratory organ. The bout was given to Batchelder.

The next fencing bout was between Beattie, '93, and Dana, '93; but one of the foils was broken and the bout was postponed until it could be replaced, and Atkinson, '90, and Weis, '92, appeared for a bout of middle-weight sparring. In the first round both fought cautiously;

Atkinson got a few counters on Weis' cheek, but Weis' left struck heavy on Atkinson's nose; the round ended close. In the second round Weis forced Atkinson, but both fought cautiously. In the third round Weis looked for Atkinson's wind, but was paid for his trouble by a few left-handers on his nose. The judges decided another round was necessary, but honors still remained even and the bout was decided a draw. Each to have one point toward class cup.

The fencing between Beattie, '93, and Dana, '93, was the next event. They each displayed some very pretty passes, but Beattie won by 2 points to Dana's 1.

By a mistake of the printer the light-weight sparring was omitted from the programme, but Batchelder, '90, and Goetzman, '92, had entered, and they put on the mittens for a 3-round bout. In the first round both sparred cautiously, but Batchelder put a few counters on Goetzman's neck and face, who returned with several heavy body blows. In the second round Goetzman sparred on the defensive, having a bad nose which was broken the night before. In the third round Goetzman was decidedly weakened, and the bout was awarded to Batchelder.

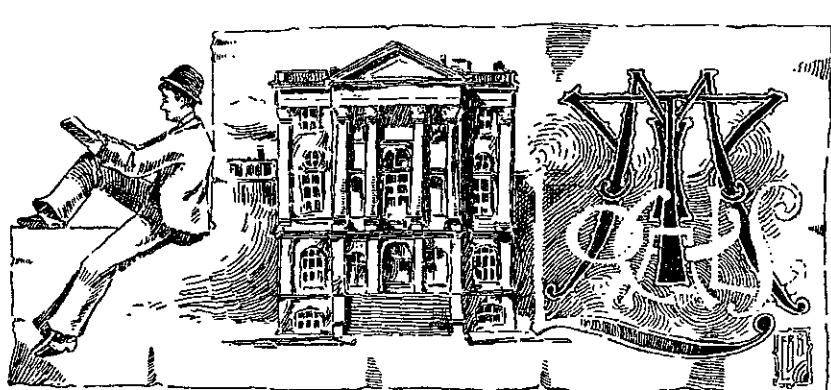
In the heavy-weight sparring Atkinson, '90, Harvey, '92, Weis, '92, and Schlackes, '92, were entered; but Schlackes did not appear, and Atkinson and Weis withdrew, giving first place to Harvey.

The fencing for second place was between Weis, '92, and Dana, '93. Weis withdrew, giving Dana second place.

The final tug-of-war for the class championship was between '90 and '92. On the drop '92 had $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, and at the end of five minutes it had increased to $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches, giving '92 the class championship in tug-of-war.

The points for the Class Cup now stand, '90, 14; '91, 5; '92, 7, and '93, 5.

The lower classes did not make so good a showing as was expected, and '90 will probably retain the class championship another year.



Less than a month to the semi-annuals.

The Freshmen had their first dress parade Tuesday.

And the world is waiting for "Technique" and the Catalogue.

Otto Germer, Jr., has been elected captain of next year's eleven.

Ninety-one will have a class dinner at the Thorndike, Saturday.

The Technology Electric Club had a dinner at Young's last Friday.

Building No. 3 is to be officially known as Engineering Building.

F. P. Gulliver, '88, of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been in town lately.

O. W. Pickering, '89, is employed at a Central Florida phosphate works.

A. E. Fowle, '93, has been elected a director of the Co-operative Society.

The Hammer and Tongs held their regular monthly meeting Saturday evening.

The Corporation held its second quarterly meeting Wednesday, December 11th.

The Glee Club sang at the Maritime Exhibition, Saturday afternoon and evening.

J. L. Batchelder, '90, led the hounds in the last run of the Boston Athletic Association.

Professor Cross addressed the North-Western Alumni Association at Chicago, on the 7th inst.

The football picture is a very good one, but eighteen men are too many for one eleven.

S. H. Brockunier, '93, has been elected a member of the American Ornithological Society.

Mr. Allen French, '92, and H. H. Young, '91, have been elected to the Hammer and Tongs.

Mr. Puffer, Instructor in Physics, has under construction for the Electrical Department a standard bridge.

Graham Robinson, '90, has left the Institute, to enter the employ of the Joliet Iron and Steel Works, Joliet, Ill.

T. A. Sprague, '87, formerly located in Boston, is now in Helena, Montana, with the N. W. Electrical Construction and Supply Co.

The treasurer of the Football Association holds I O U's to a considerable amount, which he would be glad to have cashed without delay.

The third year class in Zoölogy, made its annual excursion to Woods Holl, Saturday, Dec. 14th, under the guidance of Dr. Gardiner.

D Y D X held their regular monthly meeting at Young's Hotel, December 14th. Messrs. Ball, '91, Bryden, '91, and Campbell, '91, were initiated.

Photographs of the football team may be obtained by a note to H. M. Waite, Manager, care of letter rack, with one dollar and a quarter inclosed.

The Electrical Department has received from J. White, Glasgow, Scotland, a set of Sir Wm. Thomson's magneto-static instruments, both current and potential.

The first of the Afternoon Tech. Parties for 1889-90 will be given December 28th, in Cotillion Hall. Others will follow on February 8th, February 22d, and March 8th.

The old letter-box has gone from Rogers' corridor. In its place has appeared a regulation United States mail-box with the recently patented improvement for dropping letters.

Capt. A. H. Russell, of the Ordnance Dept. U. S. A., read a paper on the Development of Magazine Guns for Military Use, at the last meeting of the Society of Arts.

Hollis French, '89, is agent of the Massachusetts Electrical Engineering Company, which has been recently organized for general expert electrical service. Among the consulting electricians are S. W. Holman and W. W. Jacques.

The K₂S met at Young's Friday night. A. C. Smith, '91, was admitted to membership. Papers were read by S. Bartlett, '90, on Indigo Dyeing on Wool, and by W. R. Whitney, '90, on the Water Supply of Jamestown. N. Y.

The officers of the Society of '92 have been elected as follows: President, H. S. Potter; Vice-Presidents, A. B. Payne, Jr., H. L. Johnson; Secretary, R. Waterman, Jr.; Treasurer, F. I. Davis; Executive Committee, F. H. Harvey, C. F. Park, A. G. Davis.

As has already been announced, Prof. J. C. Gray, of Harvard, will deliver next term a series of lectures on Business Law, corresponding to the course that was given three years ago. Next year the lectures will extend through the entire year, and be delivered by Mr. Brandeis, of the Boston bar.

During the last few weeks the Chemical Department of the Institute has had ten applications for young chemists; one each for a railroad laboratory, sulphuric acid works, dye and print works, manufacture of chemicals, manufacture of aluminium, fertilizer works, general chemical work, and three for iron and steel works.

A new amusement for the Freshmen during the dinner hour has developed itself within the last few weeks, which results in the enrichment of the small "muckers" in front of Rogers. The "flush" youth of '93 empty their pockets of pennies to the wear-out-pants-on-the-steps urchins, and the scrambles which ensue remind one of a football scrimmage.

The work of last year upon alternating current transformers is to be continued by Mr. W. L. Smith, who assisted Messrs. Fiske and French in their thesis work last term.

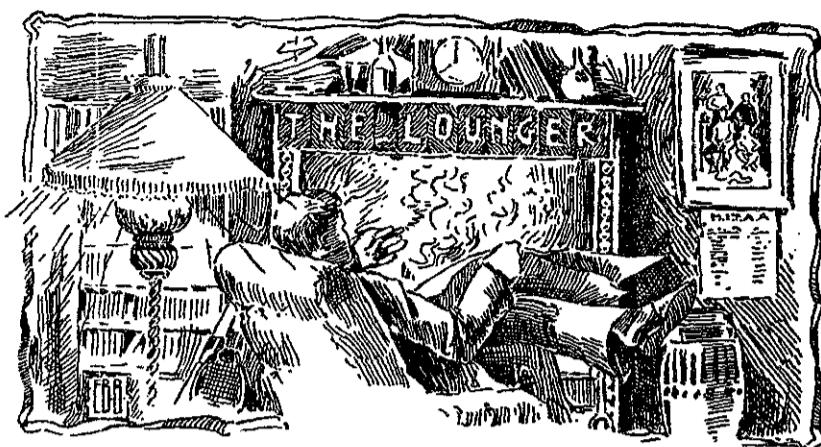
Converters of various types and capacities are to be tested with various loads, both by the electrometer and calorimeter methods, with a view to the comparison of the accuracy of the two methods.

Mr. F. H. Newell, '87, of the U. S. Geodetic Survey, lectured before the Civil Engineering Society last Thursday afternoon on the Irrigation of our Western Lands. The lecture was a very interesting one, and was well attended by Course I. men. Mr. Newell also lectured to the students of Courses V. and X. in the morning, on the Production of Petroleum.

The annual meeting of the Football Association was held in 15 Rogers, Monday the 9th, and the following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, C. F. Hammond, '91; Vice-Presidents, G. W. Vaillant, '91, F. H. Harvey, '92; Secretary and Treasurer, S. W. Weis, '92; Manager, H. N. Williams, '92; Executive Committee, H. Rice, '91, E. P. Gill, '92, R. H. Beattie, '93.

The series of lectures on the public water supply in its relation to the public health, given by Prof. T. M. Drown in the Lowell Institute Course, have been unusually interesting, both to the general public and to the students in Sanitary Science. The lecturer brought forward many new views on the subject, and the very latest bacterial and chemical investigations bearing on the question were presented. The subjects of the lectures were as follows: (1) Distribution of Water in Nature,—Modern Water Works. (2) Analysis of Water,—Chemical, Microscopical, and Bacteriological. (3) Water a Carrier of Disease. (4) The Protection of Water Supplies against Pollution. The Character of Boston's Water Supply. (5) The Purification of Polluted Waters. (6) Springs, Wells, and Cisterns.

Returns from the third year Heat exam. are out. It is reported that about fifty men failed to pass, but that there are a large number of honors to even matters.



BEING somewhat overtaxed mentally since writing the intellectual screamer on football which appeared in the last issue, the Lounger has spent most of his time of late holding down the easy-chair in front of his elegantly tiled fireplace, and allowing the radiant beams of his bumblechute lamp to dally unrestricted with the exterior of his temple of thought. For further descriptive particulars see cut at top of this article.

His meditations have been divided between the ups and downs in the lives of Boston's meteorological instruments during the recent imitation of weather we have been having, and the painful necessity of squandering an immense amount of board money in satisfying the Christmas cravings of his numerous friends and relatives.

This Christmas present business is not what it is cracked up to be, anyway. It is certainly very pleasant to receive some token of affection from your best girl, which she has constructed with her own pretty fingers, although it may be nothing more appropriate than an embroidered necktie case for the solitary tie which you only take off at night. It is also eminently proper for you to blow in all the wealth you can borrow in order to send her a fitting proof of your affection. Looking at the matter from a sentimental standpoint like this, it is certainly more blessed to give than to receive. Nobody ever regrets the lucre he puts into a Christmas present which makes a pair of bright eyes waste their brilliancy on him rather than on Ferguson. It is the family side of the matter where the rub comes. Every fourteenth cousin expects a pair of horses, a block of houses, or something equally as modest from you; and if one has somewhere from fifty to seventy-five cousins, and but four dollars cash on hand, what is he going to do about it? The Lounger has fixed up this family business in real good style. There are six of us in

the immediate family: the governor, the mother, big sister, little sister, kid brother, and the Lounger. We assault the outside cousins en masse. The card with their respective presents wears a stereotyped form such as this: "To cousin Kjones, with a merry Christmas, from uncle and aunt, and big sister, little sister, kid brother, and the Lounger." Thus you see each one of us has an attachment on every present that goes out, even though it's nothing more expensive than a Christmas card somebody sent us last year. Sometimes, too, we can cover more than one relation per present. We have one family of cousins in which there are five small children, all about of an age. Our presents to them are generally some five-handed game of picture cards, or a five-handed whirligig machine. The superscriptions on the outside of these offerings reads: "To Johnnie, and Sammy, and Charlie, and Kate, and Margaret, with a merry Christmas from uncle and aunt, and big sister, little sister, kid brother, and the Lounger." Figuring it out by the method of least squares, you see this does away with exactly twenty-nine presents.

There's millions in it, and you get just as many notes of acknowledgment. When it comes to the immediate family, we observe the present-giving custom likewise from a just and economical standpoint. The governor is the only person in the household who has an independent income, and if we should lavish expensive no-goods on him he would eventually have to pay for them. The old man is the only fellow who could really give a present in the family, as everything comes indirectly from him. We get over this difficulty in a very artistic manner. Everybody gives everybody else two dollars, and we come out just square. Sometimes one or two of us get fooled by getting an I O U from some fellow who couldn't raise the necessary dust to start with; but this adds amusement, and the Christmas curiosity is expended wondering who is going to get papered. If the curious outside world see fit to interrogate, the reply, "A check from father," produces utter silence; and if a five-hundred dollar look is then assumed, the inquisitor will not dare trot out any of his own presents less costly than diamonds. Because Christmas comes but once a year, don't give up your whole winter's allowance to some one you don't care a rap about, and call this celebrating. Buy a big lamp and a big chair like the Lounger's,

and sit down before the fire and think the matter over. If you cannot get over the idea that you owe everybody some sort of a remembrance, go out and buy the town, and then live without paying your bills for a month in consequence. It is much better, however, to stay peaceably in your room, and not be affected by this evergreen and holly enthusiasm. The Lounger will look up and congratulate all who take the excellent advice herein contained. He has also some few ideas regarding the proper investing of this capital which he would be glad to impart.

College Notes.

Rutgers College has a member of the Faculty, Prof. De Witt, playing a regular place on her football team.

W. R. Baird, of New York, is about to publish a new and revised edition of his "American College Fraternities."

A committee has been appointed by Columbia College to consider the formation of a league next year between Cornell, Columbia, Lehigh, Lafayette, and Rutgers Colleges.

The Canadian census of athletes gives 16,000 lacrosse players, 5,000 snow-shoers, 5,000 curlers, 4,000 cricketers, 2,000 football players, 1,000 oarsmen, 1,000 base-ballists, and 10,000 field athletes, making a total of 45,000 who actively follow some branch of outdoor sport.

A Western intercollegiate football league will be formed next year, consisting of the Universities of Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and the Northwestern University of Illinois. An intercollegiate baseball league already exists, consisting of Lake Forest, Wisconsin, Beloit, Racine, and Northwestern Universities.

The Yale observatory is the official source of correct time throughout the State. It not only supplies the railroads with the correct time daily, but also many public buildings. Its income is \$1,000 a year from the railroads alone.

Theodore B. Wanamaker has given one million dollars to Princeton, the income to be given annually as a prize to students performing the best work in English history and language.

Lehigh University has never conferred any honorary degrees whatever.

The number of students in the classical department at Cornell has increased fivefold in four years.

The undergraduates at Wesleyan have pledged \$1,500 for a new gymnasium.

The *Oxford Review* is the only college undergraduate paper published in England. In the United States there are over 200.

The Sophomore Class of Columbia has a debt of over \$600 left from the crew last June.

In American colleges there are 3,847 men who are preparing for the ministry.

In the last five seasons Exeter has had 39 of her graduates on the 'varsity football teams of Harvard, Yale, and Princeton.

The popular sentiment among the students of the University of Pennsylvania is strongly against co-education.

Ex-President E. G. Robinson of Brown University is giving a series of lectures on psychology at Vassar.

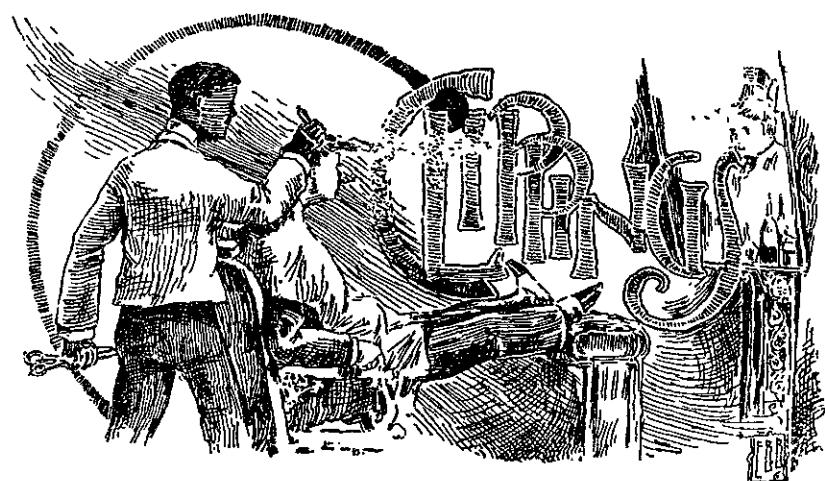
The usual Thanksgiving recess at Yale has been omitted this year, and in its place the Christmas vacation will extend from Dec. 18th to Jan 7th.

The University of Wisconsin has received \$20,000 by the will of the late Judge Jackson, of Madison, to endow a law professorship.

President Seelye, of Amherst College, will relinquish his duties for a time, in order to recruit his strength in Europe.

Yale, Harvard, Princeton, and Columbia have made arrangements for holding entrance examinations in Paris next year.

The captains of next year's elevens will be Cumnock of Harvard, Poe of Princeton, and Rhodes of Yale.



McFingle: "I see that the story of Cæsar's being assassinated by stabbing is denied by historians."

McFangle: "Yes; and I have no doubt on good grounds."

"Why, how do you think he was killed?"

"By a Roman punch, probably."—*Lawrence American*.

Indignant Physician: "Man, what have you done? You sent my patient the wrong prescription, and it killed him."

Druggist: "Vell, what vas der metter mit you? Last week I sent your odder patients der right prescription, and dot killed him. How can somebody please sooch a man!"—*Springfield Republican*.

First Dude: "No wonder I am pale, Clarence. Fweddy played a mean twick on me."

Second Dude: "What was it, old fel.?"

"Why, I gave him a cigar, y' know, and the cruewl fellow made me stay in the room while he smoked it, bah Jove."—*Time*.

Visitor: "I suppose your daughter is busily preparing for her wedding."

Mother: "Yes; she is up in her room now destroying all her old letters."—*Life*.

Charles: "I adore you, Edith, but, alas! I am poor. However, I have a wealthy uncle from whom I have expec—"

Edith (eagerly): "Is he married?"

Charles: "No, darling."

Edith: "Then introduce me to him, there's a dear."—*Scraps*.

Guzzleton (about to depart after a Christmas dinner at his club): "Shay, are you sure thish ish my hat?"

Waiter: "Yes, sir; there's your name in it."

Guzzleton (looking in the mirror): "Well, then, I wonder'f I hain't borrowed some other feller's (hic) head!"—*Texas Siftings*.

Angry Father: "Another tailor's bill, I suppose. Well, what's to be done about it?"

Son (meekly): "That's for you to settle."—*Clothier and Furnisher*.

"Will you think of me after I am gone?" she asked. "Will you love me as much then as you do now?"

"More," he said, absent-mindedly.—*Merchant Traveler*.



He: "SHALL YOU NOT MISS THE COUNTRY WHEN YOU LEAVE FOR THE WINTER?"

She: "NOT SO MUCH. ONE DOES NOT GET RID OF THE COUNTRYMEN BY GOING TO THE CITY."